


# SETTING UP IN BARCELONA

/

## A PRACTICAL GUIDE

START  
IDEAS  
PROJECTS  
BUSINESS  
LABORAL  
FUN  
/ DO IT  
IN  
BARCELONA





**START  
IDEAS  
PROJECTS  
BUSINESS  
GLOBAL  
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BARCELONA**



# PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR STARTING UP A BUSINESS IN BARCELONA /

Barcelona is a dynamic, innovative city with a business activity that is one of the main reference in Europe. The city has more than 3,300 foreign businesses and a rate of entrepreneurship of 6,7%. Barcelona is Europe's number one city in terms of quality of life for its workers, and if that's still not enough, it also has a 4.5km of beaches waiting for you.

In this guide, we would like to provide you with all the information necessary to get on your feet and start a business in Barcelona, so that you are aware of all the resources and tools the city offers to entrepreneurs.

If you want to start a business,  
**DO IT IN BARCELONA!**

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**MORE THAN 10 MILLION  
SQUARE METRES OF  
FLOOR SPACE FOR  
ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES  
IN THE BARCELONA  
METROPOLITAN AREA**

**/**

**AND 4.5 KM OF  
MAGNIFICENT BEACHES  
WAITING FOR YOU**

**/**





# 1. CITY INFORMATION /



## Barcelona in figures (2009)

*1st city in quality of living for employees (ECM)*

*Catalonia, 6th European destination for international investments (EIM)*

*Barcelona, 5th European most attractive city for business (ECM)*

*2nd world city in the organisation of international meetings (ICCA)*

- Barcelona city: **1,621,537** inhabitants
- Metropolitan area: **4,992,193** inhabitants
- Foreign population: **18.4%** of total population
- Catalonia's GDP per capita (ppp) in % of EU-27 average: **126.4** (2010)
- Catalonia's Foreign Direct Investment: **1,873.54** million €
- Workforce employed in the service sector: **85.6%**
- Salaried workers in high-tech manufacturing & knowledge-intensive services: **47.7%**
- University students in Catalonia: **226,787**
- 2 Business schools amongst the top 20 in the world
- Tourist overnights: **12.8** million
- Airport passengers: **27,595,181**
- 1st Mediterranean port in cruiser passengers: **2,154,057**
- Delegates attending fairs and congresses: **576,157**

# 2. HOW TO START UP A BUSINESS IN BARCELONA /

## 2.1 Legal status

**Are you an entrepreneur who wants to start up a new business in Barcelona?**

In Barcelona, you can start up a new business by means of creating a company or by becoming an individual business owner:

**Company:** in the Spanish legislation, there are a number of different legal status for companies, among which some of the most common are the Limited Liability Company (*Societat Anònima — SA*), the Limited Company (*Societat de Responsabilitat Limitada — SL*), and the New Limited Company (*Societat Limitada Nova Empresa — SLNE*).

**Individual Business Owner:** this is a self-employed person who works on their own account and regularly, personally and directly carries out an economic activity for profit, without being subject to a professional contract. Within the Social Security there is a special system for individual business owners, known as RETA (*Règim Especial de Treballadors Autònoms*), which has its own special regulations.

For more information regarding the different legal statuses, visit:

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/legalstatuses](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/legalstatuses)

To know more about legal procedures, visit:

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/proceduresguide](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/proceduresguide)

> [www.accio.cat/en/invest-catalonia/howtodobusiness](http://www.accio.cat/en/invest-catalonia/howtodobusiness)

> [www.investinspain.org](http://www.investinspain.org) in the Invest in Spain section

## *Different legal statuses for businesses*

For further information: > [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/proceduresguide](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/proceduresguide)

<i>Legal entity</i>	<i>Minimum num. of partners</i>	<i>Minimum equity capital</i>	<i>Liability</i>	<i>Direct taxes</i>	<i>Accounting books</i>
<b>Individual business owner</b>	1	-	Unlimited	IRPF (Personal Income Tax)	Income and expenses ledger, VAT Book - accrued and paid, Book of Investment goods and Book of supplies - this last one only for professional activities
<b>Private Partnership (SCP)</b>	At least 2	There is no minimum equity capital	Unlimited	IRPF (Personal Income Tax)	Income and expenses ledger, VAT Book - accrued and paid, Book of capital assets and Book of supplies - this last one only for professional activities
<b>Limited company (SL)</b>	1 or more	€ 3,005.06	Limited	Corporate Tax	Daily Ledger, Inventory and accounts book, Book of minutes, Registry of nominative shares - only Unipersonal LC, Book of certain intracommunity operations
<b>Cooperative company</b>	3	€ 3,000	Based on what is determined in the Statutes	Corporate Tax paying 20%	Daily Ledger, Inventory and Accounts Ledger, Book of Minutes, Partner Registry Book
<b>New Limited Company (SLNE)</b>	1	Minimum € 3,012 and maximum € 120,202	Limited	Corporate Tax	Simplified accounting and a one-stop registry system, Record book of Nominative Shares is suppressed and the obligatory nature of Daily Ledger remains
<b>Worker owned Limited Company (SLL)</b>	3	€ 3,005.06	Limited	Corporate Tax	Daily Ledger, Inventory and accounts ledger, Book of Minutes, Registry of nominative stocks, Record of invoices issued, Record of invoices received, Record Book of Assets
<b>Worker owned limited liability company (SAL)</b>	3	€ 60,101.21	Limited	Corporate Tax	Daily Ledger, Inventory and accounts book, Minute book, Nominative Share Register, Book of invoices issued, Book of invoices received, Record Book of Assets
<b>Limited liability company (SA)</b>	1 or more	€ 60,101.21	Limited	Corporate Tax	Daily Ledger, Inventory and accounts ledger, Book of minutes, Registry of nominative shares - only Unipersonal LLC, Record of invoices issued, Record Book of Invoices Received, Record Book of Assets
<b>Community property</b>	At least 2	There is no minimum equity capital	Unlimited	IRPF (Personal Income Tax)	Daily Ledger, Inventory and Accounts Ledger

## Do you have an overseas business which you would like to relocate or expand into Barcelona?

In the case of an overseas business that moves its activity from its country of origin to Barcelona, the most common legal statuses that it can assume are:

**Subsidiary:** this requires a public deed to be granted, which must be filed with the Mercantile Register. It must have assigned capital, even though there is no minimum established amount. The subsidiary must have a legal representative with administrative powers.

**Branch office:** this does not have a distinct or independent legal status from that of its parent company, and it therefore need not be registered in the Mercantile Register. For the purposes of taxation, trade and social security, a public deed may have to be granted which certifies the opening of the branch office, the assignment of funds if necessary, and the identity of the legal representative, individual or legal entity resident in Spain and their powers.

**Affiliate:** this is the most common option for facilitating foreign investment and developing economic activities that have their own legal status. It involves setting up a new company in Catalonia, with 100% (or close to 100%) of the capital coming from a foreign company.

For more information about the legal forms that foreign companies can adopt in Catalonia, visit:

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/foreign-companies/legalstatuses](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/foreign-companies/legalstatuses)

To consult the legal procedures involved in transferring a foreign company to Barcelona, visit:

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/proceduresguide](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/proceduresguide)  
> [www.acc10.cat/en/invest-catalonia/how-todobusiness](http://www.acc10.cat/en/invest-catalonia/how-todobusiness)  
> [www.investinspain.org](http://www.investinspain.org) in the Invest in Spain section

## 2.2 Incentives for starting up businesses

The Spanish taxation system offers a range of advantages for businesses and employees. It also offers advantages for specific types of activity:

### Benefits of the Spanish tax system for companies

The Spanish taxation system offers a range of advantages for businesses and employees. It also offers advantages for specific types of activity.

- Tax deduction for exporting companies (3% in 2010)
- Additional deductions including professional training (1% - 2%), activities related to R&D (25% - 42%), and technological innovation (8%), among others
- After the payment of taxes, a business' effective tax rate can be 0
- Spain has a large number of tax treaties, especially with Latin American countries, which makes it an ideal base for investments within Latin America

### Tax deductions for R+D+I. Deductible activities for 2010

#### Research and development

The Spanish tax framework for R&D&I is recognised by BUSINESSEUROPE (the former Union of Industrial and Employer's Confederations of Europe) as one of the best in the OECD:

- Expenses which correspond to R&D: 25% (in exceptional cases up to 42%)
- Expenditure in personnel for qualified researchers devoted exclusively to R&D activities: an additional 17%

- Investment in tangible and intangible fixed assets (except for real-estate and land) intended exclusively for use in R&D activities: 8%

#### Technological innovation

Spain and Catalonia offer one of the best business tax deduction systems for research, development and technological innovation in the world:

- Expenditure corresponding to industrial design and manufacturing engineering processes: 8%
- Expenditure corresponding to the acquisition of advanced technology in the form of patents, licences, know-how and designs (maximum 1 million euros): 8%
- Expenditure corresponding to obtaining certificates for the compliance of ISO 9000, GMP or similar quality standards: 8%
- Expenditure corresponding to technological diagnostic activities for identifying, defining and orientating advanced technological solutions: 8%

For more information about company start-up incentives, visit:

> [www.acc10.cat/catalonia/en/index.jsp](http://www.acc10.cat/catalonia/en/index.jsp) in Doing business in Catalonia section





## 2.3 How to find funding

This is a table of the different types of funding that a company in Barcelona can opt for:

### *Types of funding*

See also next pages >

<i>Source of funding</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Contact</i>
<b>GUARANTEED LOANS AT LOW INTEREST RATES</b>				
<b>INICIA loan</b>	<p>The INICIA loan is aimed at the creation of new businesses, and it may be granted to anybody who has a business idea which they develop with the consultation of any advisory body within the Inicia network, and for which they obtain a certification of the viability of their business plan.</p> <p>Financial institutions can request the guarantees and endorsements they consider necessary for their approval, in accordance with their operative procedures and criteria.</p> <p>This loan is known to financial bodies by its former name of <i>Préstec Autoempresa</i></p>	Entrepreneurs who are developing a business idea with the counselling of any accredited organization in the Inicia network, and who obtain certification that their business plan is viable	<p>Soft funding for starting up businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Catalan Saving Banks: up to 70% of the fixed assets</li> <li>- Other institutions: with no limits for viable business projects</li> </ul>	> <a href="http://www.inicia.gencat.cat">www.inicia.gencat.cat</a>
<b>ICF Credit</b>	Funding aimed at micro-businesses, SMEs, and individual business owners who invest in fixed assets, both tangible and intangible, in Catalonia: land and buildings, machinery, facilities, fixtures and fittings, computer applications, R&D&I, and other intangible assets	Small and medium-sized companies based in Catalonia	Up to 100% of the investment, plus a complimentary 20% for current assets needs. A maximum of € 1,000,000 can be applied for	<p>Institut Català de Finances</p> <p>Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 635</p> <p>08010 Barcelona</p> <p>Tel. 902 22 40 80</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@icfinances.com">info@icfinances.com</a></p> <p>&gt; <a href="http://www.icfinances.com">www.icfinances.com</a></p>
<b>ICO Entrepreneurs 2010</b>	The ICO loan is aimed at providing support for the creation of new businesses or professional activities by granting preferential loans	New businesses and new professional activities	Up to 100% of the project's net investment	<p>The application is made directly in the banks or building societies which adhere to the Line.</p> <p>More information can be obtained from the Barcelona Activa Resource Centre for Entrepreneurs, or from the website:</p> <p>&gt; <a href="http://www.ico.es">www.ico.es</a></p>

<i>Source of funding</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Contact</i>
<b>MICROCREDITS</b>				
<b>Microbank</b>	Microbank aims to aid potential businesses to secure microcredits	Entrepreneurs with a viable business plan who do not have access to the guarantees or endorsements necessary for applying for a loan from the conventional financial institutions	Preferential rate loan (the amount granted is determined by the capacity to return the microcredit)	Applications via Barcelona Activa, Entrepreneurs Resource Centre: C/ Llacuna 162-164 08017 Barcelona > <a href="http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com">www.barcelonanetactiva.com</a>
<b>FIDEM: microcredits for women</b>	This microcredit aims to help women start up new businesses	Female entrepreneurs (see the website for requirements)	Maximum amount € 15,000.00, with a maximum funding of 95% of the total investment (excluding VAT)	FIDEM Plaça Ramon Berenguer el Gran, 1 entl 2a 08002 Barcelona Tel. 933 103 166 > <a href="http://www.fidem.net">www.fidem.net</a>
<b>FUNDING OF CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
<b>INICIA funding of current assets</b>	The aim is to fund the working capital of businesses which have recently started up	Businesses started up no more than five years ago which have sought consultation from a body which forms part of the Department of Labour's Inicia network	Soft funding for working capital (credit accounts)	Applications via banking institutions (with a previous viability certificate from Barcelona Activa) > <a href="http://www.inicia.gencat.cat">www.inicia.gencat.cat</a>
<b>ICO Liquidity</b>	The aim is to allow businesses to fulfil their investment projects, as well as other complementary funding	Individual business owners and SMEs that do not have any operations in arrears with any Credit Institution	The maximum amount of funding will be: - For freelancers and businesses with less than 50 workers, 2 million euros - For businesses with 50 workers or more, up to 50 million euros	The application is made directly in branches of the main banks, building societies and rural savings banks in Spain. Applications are examined, approved and formalised by the bank, savings bank or building society according to the conditions specified. > <a href="http://www.ico.es">www.ico.es</a>

<i>Source of funding</i>	<i>Objective</i>	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	<i>Funding</i>	<i>Contact</i>
<b>INNOVATION</b>				
<b>R&amp;D&amp;I loans</b>				
ENISA loan	Funding for innovative business projects	Small and medium-sized companies constituted by more than one individual, from any sector except real estate and financial	Between € 100,000 and € 1,000,000. Higher amounts will be considered in exceptional cases	> <a href="http://www.enisa.es">www.enisa.es</a>
NEOTEC loan	Funding aimed at the initial phases of a technological company's life cycle	Entrepreneurs in the process of creating their technology-based company and newly created technology companies	Financing quantity according to loan type	> <a href="http://www.cdti.es">www.cdti.es</a>
ICF Innovation	Funding for innovative projects	Businesses based in Catalonia	Minimum amount € 300,000 with funding for a maximum of 80% of the investment	> <a href="http://www.icfinances.com">www.icfinances.com</a>
ENISA loan for young entrepreneurs	Stimulates the creation of businesses by young people, helping them to secure preferential funding with the sole guarantee of their business project	SMEs (See website for conditions)	Maximum loan amount: € 50,000	> <a href="http://www.aijec.es">www.aijec.es</a>
<b>SECTOR-SPECIFIC LOANS</b>				
<b>NEOTEC loan</b>	Funding aimed at the initial phases of a technological company's life cycle	Entrepreneurs in the process of creating their technologically-based business and newly created technological businesses	Fundable quantity according to loan type	> <a href="http://www.cdti.es">www.cdti.es</a>
<b>NEBT loan</b>	Consolidation of recently started business projects with a technological foundation	Recently created businesses consisting of more than one individual, which are operational in Catalonia	Maximum of € 300,000 with a maximum limit of 75% of the project's accepted budget	> <a href="http://www.acc10.cat">www.acc10.cat</a>
<b>Crèdit cultura</b>	Facilitates and reduces the cost of access to funding for cultural industries	Businesses that have a company domicile or are permanently established in Catalonia, devoted to the production, distribution and/or commercialisation of cultural products	Loans for productive investment of up to 180,000 euros	> <a href="http://www.gencat.cat/cultura/icic">www.gencat.cat/cultura/icic</a>



## 2.4 Taxation system

Catalonia's current taxation system includes a range of different state and municipal taxes:

### State taxes

**The Personal Income Tax** (*Impost sobre la Renda de les Persones Físiques — IRPF*) places a progressive scale of tax rates of between 15% and 45% on an individual's available income. For increases and decreases in property assets the payment is 19% or 21% depending on the net savings tax base.

**The Non-Residents Income Tax** (*Impost de la Renda de No Residents — IRNR*) applies to foreign people that work in the Spanish State but are not residents, or those businesses that want to start up a subsidiary in the Spanish State.

**The Corporate Income Tax** (*Impost sobre Societats- IS*) applies to the income of legal entities or companies. The general tax rate is 30% (25% for SMEs). This rate decreases notably when legally established tax benefits are applied, among which are benefits for research, development and innovation.

**The Value Added Tax** (*Impost sobre el Valor Afegit — IVA*) affects business activities and is ultimately passed on to the consumer. Three different types of interest rates apply: 4%, 8% or 18%.

### The Property Transfer Tax and Stamp Duty

(*Impost sobre Transmissions Patrimonials i Actes Jurídics Documentats — ITP-AJD*) applies to transfers between non-entrepreneurs and also to certain real property transactions. For certain real-estate acquisitions the interest rate is 7% and to incorporate a company, 1%.

### Local taxes

**The Property Tax** (*Impost sobre Béns Immobles — IBI*) taxes property ownership, and its value depends on the value of the property and the rate of interest set by the council.

**The Buildings, Works and Facilities Tax** (*Impost sobre Construccions, Obres i Instal·lacions — ICIO*), is applied according to the value of certain works.

**The Tax on the Increase in Value of Urban Land** (*Impost sobre l'Increment de Valor dels Terrenys de Naturalesa Urbana — IIVTNU*), taxes the transmission of real estate.

**The Tax on Mechanical Vehicles** (*Impost sobre Vehicles de Tracció Mecànica*), taxes vehicle ownership.

## 2.5 Support services for business start-up and growth

Barcelona Activa, the Local Development Agency of the Barcelona City Council, has created a specific itinerary of resources and services in English, available to foreign entrepreneurs who wish to create a new company or make their company grow. Most services and resources are free of charge.

### Resources for new entrepreneurs

#### Welcome Sessions

Welcome sessions are the entry point to Barcelona Activa. Two-hour long sessions to introduce programs, activities and services designed to support the creation of new businesses. Attending these sessions provide a user-name and a password to access applications such as the online business plan or the executive training sessions.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/welcome-session](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/welcome-session)  
*Available in English and Spanish*

#### Entrepreneurship Center

Self-use space open to all entrepreneurs, where a business idea can be transformed into a viable business project through a programme of daily activities, access to online material and expert coaching.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/entrepreneurs-hipcenter](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/entrepreneurs-hipcenter)

### Executive Training

Sessions aimed orientating entrepreneurs in specific aspects of starting up a business, for example legal processes and procedures, funding plans and elevator pitch.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/seminars](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/seminars)  
*Available in English and Spanish*

### Expert Coaching

A free, personalised service for all those entrepreneurs that are in the process of starting up a business.

*Available in English and Spanish*

### Online Business Incorporation

Coaching point and processing of the online incorporation of new companies.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/pait](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/pait)

### Online Applications

- Test Idea, for testing out a new business idea (*Available in English, Spanish, Chinese and Arabic*)
  - On-line business plan (*Available in English and Spanish*)
  - The keys to entrepreneurship, as well as the skills and attitudes that contribute to a business project's success (*Available in English and Spanish*)
- > [www.barcelonanetactiva.com](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com)



## Business Growth Resources

### Growth Academy

High-level workshop of four intensive work sessions aimed at company's management teams to plan their business growth strategy.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/growthacademy](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/growthacademy)

*Available in English and Spanish*

### Strategic Growth Plan

On-line self-diagnosis and strategy-planning tool, developed jointly by Barcelona Activa and IESE Business School for developing the most suitable growth strategy.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/pec](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/pec)

*Available in English and Spanish*

### Axelera for Global Excellence

Programme aimed at selecting the most innovative companies in the area of Barcelona with a high capacity to grow and become a global benchmark.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/axelera](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/axelera)

*Available in English and Spanish*

### Technology Bridges

Business trips to support innovative companies on their way to access global markets.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/technologybridge](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/technologybridge)

### Top Seminars for Business Management

High added-value seminars covering different aspects of business growth, such as access to funding, marketing, business strategy, etc.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/growth](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/growth)

More information:

**BarcelonaNetActiva:**

Web portal > [www.barcelonanetactiva.com](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com)

### Save the date:

**Bizbarcelona 2011, June 15th and 16th**

**Bizbarcelona**, the most important meeting point for entrepreneurs, businesses and investors, held annually in Barcelona with more than 12,000 participants.

At Bizbarcelona you'll find:

**Day of the Entrepreneur:** the major meeting for turning your business idea into a reality or making your company grow.

**HIT Barcelona:** access to knowledge, new ideas and investment opportunities across the world.

**Fòrum Tecnio:** a place where you can meet technological and business partners for your project.

**Premio Emprendedor XXI:** a competition for the most innovative businesses with growth potential.

> [www.bizbarcelona.com/en](http://www.bizbarcelona.com/en)



# 3. BUSINESS SPACES IN BARCELONA /

Find the most suitable office space to your needs:

## Temporary office spaces

Temporary office spaces for foreign entrepreneurs in their process of creating their company in Barcelona, to start doing contacts with clients or providers, searching for funding and exploring the local market.

The temporary spaces are fully equipped and can be rented for a period of days, weeks or months.

All the information can be found on the Barcelona Activa website:  
> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/landingspaces](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/landingspaces)

### Less than a week

#### Barcelona Business Corner

- 4 work units, each one equipped with a computer
- telephone and Wi-Fi
- Printer and photocopier
- Open from Monday to Friday. 9am to 8pm, with restricted access and 24 hour security

PRICES: €5/hour, €20/½ day, €30/day

### 1-3 weeks

#### 22@weekly

- Shared, equipped space of 90 m2 and 10 work units
- Internet connection
- Reception, restricted access and 24 hour security

PRICES: €100/work unit/week

### 1-3 months

#### Office in a Box

- Shared, equipped space of 90m2 and 10 work units.
- Maximum of 4 work units per company
- Internet connection
- Reception, restricted access and 24 hour security

PRICES: €150/work unit/month

## Glories Business Incubator

An innovative space for newly created businesses. Requirements:

- To have a validated business plan
  - To have an innovative business project
- > [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/incubator](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/incubator)

## Barcelona Nord Technology Park

An innovative space for technology-based companies. Requirements:

- To have more than 18 months of activity
  - Up to 200m2 to develop the business activity
- > [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/park](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/park)

## BCN Business spaces

The new search engine to find premises, offices, business centres, industrial warehouses or available industrial land in Barcelona, both for rent and for sale.

> [www.barcelonactiva.cat/espaisdenegoci/en/](http://www.barcelonactiva.cat/espaisdenegoci/en/)

## Barcelona Venture Hub

Workspace and business contacts for investors interested in companies in Barcelona.

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/venturehub](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/venturehub)





# 4. BUILD YOUR CONTACTS NETWORK IN BARCELONA /

**Biznetbarcelona** is a new network for entrepreneurship and innovation, and a meeting point for doing business, sharing knowledge and experiences and helping your business project to grow. Here you will find entrepreneurs, investor, institutions, a calendar of events in Barcelona, information, work groups, and, above all, a lot of entrepreneurial spirit.

Sign up at > [www.biznetbarcelona.com](http://www.biznetbarcelona.com)



Other entrepreneurial networks in the city:

**XarxActiva d'Empreses**

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/xarxactiva](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/xarxactiva)

**ENB (Entrepreneurs Network Barcelona)**

> [www.networkbarcelona.com](http://www.networkbarcelona.com)

**EO (Entrepreneurs Organization)**

> [www.eonetwork.org](http://www.eonetwork.org)

**Gild**

> [www.gildinternational.com](http://www.gildinternational.com)

**Barcelona Entrepreneurship City**

> [www.barcelonaentrepreneurshipcity.com](http://www.barcelonaentrepreneurshipcity.com)

**First Tuesday**

> [www.firsttuesday.es](http://www.firsttuesday.es)

**Mobile Monday**

> [www.mobilemondaybarcelona.com](http://www.mobilemondaybarcelona.com)

**iWeekend**

> [www.iweekend.org](http://www.iweekend.org)

**Aijec**

> [www.aijec.es](http://www.aijec.es)

**Cava&Twitts**

> [www.cavaandtwitts.com](http://www.cavaandtwitts.com)

**JCI (Jove Cambra Internacional Barcelona)**

> [www.jci.cat](http://www.jci.cat)





## 5. EXPERTS DIRECTORY /

The **Network of Experts for Innovative Businesses** is made up of professionals with accredited experience, especially committed to developing start-ups that offer services with a high-added value related to the different processes and key aspects of business consolidation and growth.

Experts deal with legal consultancy and administrative and general business management services for start-ups, communications and public relations strategies, and searching for and processing subsidies. Check the experts directory on BarcelonaNetActiva website:

> [www.barcelonanetactiva.com/expertsguide](http://www.barcelonanetactiva.com/expertsguide)

## 6. LANDING IN BARCELONA /

The guide **Welcome to Barcelona, practical relocation guide for foreign professionals and business people** will help you to prepare your arrival in Barcelona, with practical information regarding the most basic and essential aspects to help you to get on your feet in Barcelona, such as the residents' permit, finding housing or schools for the children, importing a vehicle, registering yourself with the local authorities, and even day-to-day aspects such as the metropolitan transport system, timetables and holidays, the city's cultural and leisure highlights, etc.

> [www.bcn.cat/barcelonabusiness](http://www.bcn.cat/barcelonabusiness)

> [www.doitinbcn.com](http://www.doitinbcn.com)



# 7. USEFUL ADDRESSES /

## Public Administration

**Barcelona City Council**  
(*Ajuntament de Barcelona*)

> [www.bcn.cat](http://www.bcn.cat)

**Barcelona City Council - Economic Promotion**

Economic Promotion is the department of Barcelona City Council for the promotion of Barcelona as an attractive place to do business and provide support to companies, professionals and institutions interested in setting up and doing business in the city.

> [www.bcn.cat/barcelonabusiness](http://www.bcn.cat/barcelonabusiness)

**Barcelona City Council – Barcelona Activa**

Barcelona Activa is the local development agency of the Barcelona City Council. It promotes quality and future oriented employment and businesses.

> [www.barcelonactiva.cat](http://www.barcelonactiva.cat)

**ACCÍO CIDEM / COPCA**

The Catalan government agency supporting Catalan companies promoting innovation and internationalization. It has 35 offices around the world.

> [www.acc10.cat](http://www.acc10.cat)

**Invest in Catalonia - ACCÍO**

The investment promotion department of ACCÍO, Invest in Catalonia provides advisory services and assistance to the needs of companies interested in setting up or expanding their facilities in Catalonia.

> [www.acc10.cat/catalonia](http://www.acc10.cat/catalonia)

**Invest in Spain**

It is the Government Agency for the Promotion and Attraction of Foreign Investment to Spain.

> [www.investinspain.org](http://www.investinspain.org)

## Institutions and Services Supporting Enterprise

**Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of Barcelona** (*Cambra Oficial de Comerç, Indústria i Navegació de Barcelona*)

An independent body which defends the interests of businesses and entrepreneurs in the Barcelona area in relation to their commercial and professional relationship.

> [www.cambrabcn.org](http://www.cambrabcn.org)

**Mercantile Register** (*Registre Mercantil*)

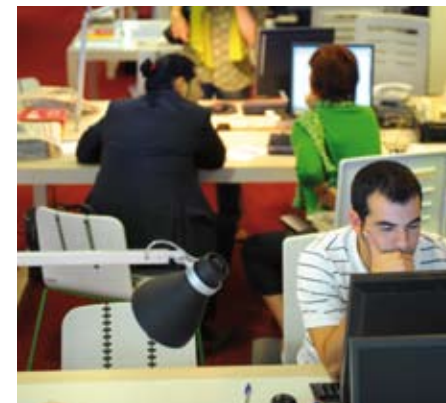
The body in charge of registering public documents and conferring on new businesses full legal capacity to act.

> [www.rmc.es](http://www.rmc.es)

**Tax Agency** (*Agència Tributària*)

The public body in charge of managing the State and customs tax system as well as the resources of other Spanish or European Union public institutions and administrations.

> [www.aeat.es](http://www.aeat.es)



## Trade Associations and Official Professional Associations

**Barcelona Aeronautics and Space Association** (*Barcelona Aeronàutica i de l'Espai - BAIE*)

An association which promotes space and aeronautics activities in the Barcelona area and Catalonia.

> [www.bcn aerospace.org](http://www.bcn aerospace.org)

**Barcelona Design Centre** (*Barcelona Centre de Disseny - BCD*)

A foundation which promotes design in the business context as a key factor for innovation and competitiveness.

> [www.bcd.es](http://www.bcd.es)

**Barcelona Medical Centre** (*Barcelona Centre Mèdic - BCM*)

An association which provides information regarding the city's health services and facilitates access to Barcelona's traditionally internationally renowned hospitals, clinics and health care units, coordinating the available services.

> [www.bcm.es](http://www.bcm.es)

**Barcelona Digital** (*Fundació Barcelona Digital*)

A foundation which promotes and encourages Barcelona and Catalonia as a strategic centre for creating and starting up innovative projects, businesses and companies in the new technologies and advanced services.

> [www.bcdigital.org](http://www.bcdigital.org)



## Airports / Ports / Logistics

### **Barcelona Airport (*Aeroport de Barcelona*)**

This is the second largest airport in Spain in terms of number of passengers, and the air hub which best connects the Mediterranean area.

> [www.aena.es/barcelona](http://www.aena.es/barcelona)

### **Barcelona Port Authority (*Autoritat Portuària de Barcelona*)**

This sets the guidelines for Barcelona Logistics Activity Area (ZAL) and its future expansion.

> [www.apb.es](http://www.apb.es)

### **Barcelona Logistics Centre (*barcelona Centre Logístic - BCL*)**

An organization that promotes the logistics community in the Barcelona area by coordinating it and equipping it with services and infrastructure to consolidate the city's position as a major logistics platform in Southern Europe.

> [www.bcncl.es](http://www.bcncl.es)

### **Mercabarna**

The largest food and agriculture centre in southern Europe, supplying over 10 million people.

> [www.mercabarna.es](http://www.mercabarna.es)

### **Barcelona Trade Fair (*Fira de Barcelona*)**

It is one of the sector's top four institutions in Europe in terms of number of events.

> [www.firabcn.es](http://www.firabcn.es)

### **Barcelona Tourism Board (*Turisme de Barcelona*)**

Consortium for the promotion of tourism, divided and customised, of the world's most appealing markets. It includes a unit specialising in promoting conferences and conventions: Barcelona Convention Bureau.

> [www.barcelonaturisme.com](http://www.barcelonaturisme.com)

### **The Property Registry (*Registre de la Propietat Immobiliària*)**

A record giving notice of ownership of real property to third parties.

> [www.registradores.org](http://www.registradores.org)

### **22@BCN Society (*Societat 22@bcn*)**

A body with legal personality which brings together the appropriate instruments and competences to manage the transformation process of the activity district 22@ with the development and execution of all kinds of city planning actions in Barcelona city's industrial and production areas classified as forming part of 22@, and therefore linked together in terms of planning, management, projection and execution.

> [www.bcn.es/22@bcn](http://www.bcn.es/22@bcn)

## Chambers of commerce in Barcelona

### **American Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 415 99 63

### **German Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 415 54 44

### **Belgium and Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 237 94 64

### **British Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 317 32 20

### **Chilean Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 310 15 85

### **French Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

(+34) 93 270 24 50

### **Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

(+34) 93 318 49 99

### **Spanish Russian Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 218 72 95

### **Spanish Indian Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 318 84 41

### **Spanish Israeli Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 321 94 49

### **Spanish Norwegian Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 414 40 41

### **Spanish Swedish Chamber of Commerce**

(+34) 93 488 05 03

## Foreign Consulates in Barcelona

### **Consulate General of Germany in Barcelona**

(+34) 93 292 10 15

### **Consulate General of France in Barcelona**

(+34) 93 270 30 00

### **Consulate of the USA in Barcelona**

(+34) 93 280 22 27

### **Consulate General of Italy in Barcelona**

(+34) 93 467 73 05

### **British Consulate General in Barcelona**

(+34) 93 366 6200 / (+34) 933 666 206

### **Consulate General of China in Barcelona**

(+34) 93 254 1199 / (+34) 93 254 1137

### **Consulate General of Mexico**

(+34) 93 201 18 22

### **Consulate General of The Netherlands**

(+34) 93 363 54 20

### **Consulate General of the Russian Federation**

(+34) 93 280 02 20

### **Consulate General of Brazil in Barcelona**

(+34) 93 488 22 88

### **Consulate General of Belgium**

(+34) 93 467 70 80

### **Consulate General of Portugal**

(+34) 93 318 81 50

### **Honorary Consulate General of Austria**

(+34) 93 368 60 03

### **Consulate General of Sweden**

(+34) 93 488 25 04

### **Consulate General of Norway**

(+34) 932 184 983

### **Honorary Consulate General of Finland**

(+34) 93 443 15 98

### **Royal Consulate General of Denmark**

(+34) 93 488 02 22

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